(e) *Doda District*

(i)	Newly constructed schools	01
(ii)	Schools revived	04
(iii)	Total students studying in the newly constructed and revived schools	815 (approximately)

(f) *Punch District*

(i)	Schools revived	02
(ii)	Misc assistance (Upgradation of facilities)	01
(iii)	Total students studying in the revived/assisted schools	500 (approximately)

(g) *Rajouri District*

(i)	Schools revived	03
(ii)	Misc assistance (Upgradation of facilities)	05
(iii)	Total students studying in the revived/assisted schools	1200 (approximately)

There is no proposal to include higher education under Operation Sadbhavana.

Arms Purchase

2621. DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India despite its impoverished conditions is one of the biggest purchases of arms; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) and (b) Modernised weapons and weapon systems are inducted into our Armed Forces keeping in view the perceptions and the prevailing strategic environment as also emerging technologies. The amount spent on purchase of arms for our defence force is significantly less as compared to several other countries in terms of per capita expenditure or as a proportion of GDP or as a component of total government expenditure.

Setting up of an Institute on Defence Strategies in Pune

2622. SHRI RAJU PAMAR:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission (UGC) is planning to set up an Institute on Defence Strategies in Pune;

(b) if so, the salient features of the institute;

(c) whether it would be a joint venture collaboration of UGC and other Universities and the Ministry of Defence; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Compensation to persons affected by incidents of Fire in Ordnance Depots

2623. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM:
SHRI KA. RA. SUBBIAN:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 522 given in the Rajya Sabha on 26th July, 2001 and state:

(a) the details of the compensation offered by Government to the affected civilians; and

(b) whether an independent safety audit mechanism would be commissioned to safety arrangements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) Civilians were affected only in the fire accident that occurred on 28th April, 2000, in Ammunition Depot, Bharatpur. Based on details received from the Government of Rajasthan, the Ministry of Defence have ordered the payment of an amount of Rs. 2 lakhs each to the families of those two persons who died in this fire accident, and an amount of Rs. 1 lakh to compensate the seven injured therein.

(b) An independent audit mechanism already exists in the form of the Centre for Environment and Explosive Safety (CEES) and Defence Research and Development Organisation.

Surveillance and Intelligence Lapses in Kargil

2624. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:
PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR:
SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the recent statement made by the former Chief of the Army Staff, General Ved Prakash Malik, as reported